



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/668,196 | 09/24/2003 | Chan-Tung Chen | 3624-0129P | 4112 |
| 2292 | 7590 | 09/13/2005 | EXAMINER | |
| BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747 | | | | HUNTER, ALVIN A |
| ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER | | |
| | | 3711 | | |

DATE MAILED: 09/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/668,196 | CHEN ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Alvin A. Hunter | 3711 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 February 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 11 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: In line 3, "as least" should read –at least--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 3 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The specification does not enable the hosel to have a flange when the recess or protrusions are present..

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-3 and 6-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Smith (USPN 2198350).

Regarding claim 1, Smith discloses a golf club head comprising a golf club head body, a striking plate mounted to the golf club head body, a hosel including a reduced section having annular protrusions and recesses on the outer periphery thereof, and a wrapping layer **22** made of a light material wrapped around the reduced section of the hosel including annular recesses and annular protrusions (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 2, Smith discloses the hosel having an engaging hole for engaging with a shaft **18** (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 3, Smith discloses the hosel having a top end distal to the golf club head body and flange **28** being formed on the top end of the hosel (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 6, Smith discloses the annular protrusions and recesses in the reduced section of the hosel being conical in a bottom edge wall thereof (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 7, Smith discloses the reduced section of the hosel extending to a joint area between the hosel and the striking plate (See Figures 1-4).

Regarding claim 8, Smith discloses the annular protrusions and recesses in the reduced section of the hosel being conical in a bottom edge wall thereof (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 9, Smith discloses the hosel having an engaging hole for engaging with a shaft **18** (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 10, Smith discloses the hosel having a top end distal to the golf club head body and flange **28** being formed on the top end of the hosel (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 11, Smith discloses the at least one annular protrusion or recess on the reduced section including at least one protrusion on an outer periphery thereof.

Regarding claim 12, Smith discloses the at least one annular protrusion or recess on the reduced section including at least one recess on an outer periphery thereof.

Regarding claims 13-15, present claims set forth a product formed by process. It is submitted that Smith is capable of being formed through the same processes being that the final product is the same as that of the applicant's invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-3 and 6-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cleveland (USPN 4516778) in view of Smith (USPN 2198350).

Regarding claim 1, Cleveland discloses a golf club head comprising a golf club head body, a striking plate mounted to the golf club head body, a hosel including a reduced section and a wrapping layer **16** made of a light material wrapped around the reduced section of the hosel **2** (See Figures 3 and 4). Cleveland does not discloses the hosel or wrapping layer having annular protrusions and recesses. Smith discloses a

golf club head comprising a golf club head body, a striking plate mounted to the golf club head body, a hosel including a reduced section having annular protrusions and recesses on the outer periphery thereof, and a wrapping layer **22** made of a light material wrapped around the reduced section of the hosel including annular recesses and annular protrusions (See Figures 3 and 4). One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to have annular protrusions and recesses, as taught by Smith, in order to strengthen the hosel.

Regarding claim 2, Cleveland discloses the hosel having an engaging hole for engaging with a shaft **6** (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 3, Smith discloses the hosel having a top end distal to the golf club head body and flange **28** being formed on the top end of the hosel (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 6, Smith discloses the annular protrusions and recesses in the reduced section of the hosel being conical in a bottom edge wall thereof (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 7, Cleveland discloses the reduced section of the hosel extending to a joint area between the hosel and the striking plate (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 8, Smith discloses the annular protrusions and recesses in the reduced section of the hosel being conical in a bottom edge wall thereof (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 9, Cleveland discloses the hosel having an engaging hole for engaging with a shaft **6** (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 10, Smith discloses the hosel having a top end distal to the golf club head body and flange **28** being formed on the top end of the hosel (See Figures 3 and 4).

Regarding claim 11, Smith discloses the at least one annular protrusion or recess on the reduced section including at least one protrusion on an outer periphery thereof.

Regarding claim 12, Smith discloses the at least one annular protrusion or recess on the reduced section including at least one recess on an outer periphery thereof.

Regarding claims 13-15, present claims set forth a product formed by process. It is submitted that Cleveland and Smith are capable of being formed through the same processes being that the final product is the same as that of the applicant's invention.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

Art Unit: 3711

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alvin A. Hunter whose telephone number is (571) 272-4411. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30AM to 4:00PM Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Vidovich, can be reached on 571-272-4415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AAH
Alvin A. Hunter, Jr.



STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER